

**REMARKS**

In the Office Action of January 23, 2007, the Examiner noted several informalities in the claims and specification which have been overcome with this amendment.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-12, all presently pending claims, as being anticipated or obvious over U.S. 6,723,040 (Brady). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In the explanation of the rejection, the Examiner stated that Brady disclosed an aperture with electrical conductors at column 2, lines 50-53. Brady discloses a bowel probe having a tubular body 18 with and tip 22. A pair of spaced-apart sensors 40, 42 are connected by conductors 44, 46 to a monitoring and air system unit depicted in FIG. 2. The recitation referred to by the Examiner states the "The conductivity sensors may be spaced apart, conductive rings or point contacts enclosed within an aperture sleeve which sleeve may be removed for cleaning." The spaced apart conductive rings 40, 42 extend around the body probe as depicted in FIG. 1 and described in column 4, lines 54-56. The tip of the probe may be enclosed in a sleeve. This relationship is more clearly described in the Abstract where it states "The sensors may be partially shielded by a removable sleeve to reduce false alarms resulting from moisture." There is no disclosure of an aperture having conductors.

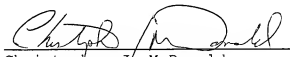
The claims have been amended to improve clarity. The claims now recite a pad having an aperture with conductors leading from the aperture to an alarm. A plug also having a pair of conductors can be removably secured within the aperture. The remaining claims further recite details of the alarm and the configuration of the conductors. The claimed subject matter is not disclosed or suggested by the prior art.

The claims are allowable and favorable action is eagerly and earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes a telephone

conversation would resolve such issues, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney.

If any fees are due and owing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account 08-2455.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher J. McDonald  
Reg. 41,533

March 1, 2007

HOFFMAN, WASSON & GITLER, PC  
2461 South Clark Street  
Suite 522  
Arlington, VA 22202  
703.415.0100  
[cmcdonald@hwglaw.com](mailto:cmcdonald@hwglaw.com)

Attorney's Docket: A-8601.AMA/cjm/cat